

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kenji Harano, et al.

Examiner: Michael F. Peffley

Serial No: Unassigned

Art Unit: 3739

Filed: Herewith

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For: ELECTRIC OPERATION APPARATUS

Dated: September 11, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, it is respectfully requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified patent application.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop New Application, Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 11, 2003.

Dated: September 11, 2003


Thomas Spinelli

1. U.S. Patent No. 6,050,994, dated April 18, 2000, issued to Sherman;
2. U.S. Patent No. 5,817,093, dated October 6, 1998, issued to Williamson, IV, et al.;
3. U.S. Patent No. 5,707,369, dated January 13, 1998, issued to Vaitekunas, et al.;
4. U.S. Patent No. 5,540,684, dated July 30, 1996, issued to Hassler, Jr.;
5. U.S. Patent No. 5,496,312, dated March 5, 1996, issued to Kliceck;
6. U.S. Patent No. 5,318,563, dated June 7, 1994, issued to Malis, et al.; and
7. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application No. 10-225462, dated August 28, 1998 together with an English language abstract.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 are not provided since they were previously made of record in parent application Serial No. 09/929,744 filed August 14, 2001. The references were cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently with the application on August 14, 2001 and on Form PTO-892 of the Office Action dated October 30, 2002.

Consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested, since the information provided herewith may be material to the examination of the present application as defined under 37 C.F.R. §1.56. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been performed or that no other art than that identified herein exists.

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted concurrent with the filing of the present application. Therefore, this filing is made under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1). An Information Disclosure Statement filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1) requires neither certification nor fee.

Respectfully submitted,



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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.